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A

Theorico-Practical,

MISCELLANEOUS,

AND

SUCCINCT

TREATISE

OF THE

PLAGUE.

SHEWING

Its Nature, Signs, Causes, Prevention and Cure.

By *Philip Rose*, M.D. and a Member of the College of Physicians.

In Magnis Voluisse sat est.

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TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE

Sir *PETER KING*,

Lord Chief Juſtice of His Majeſty's Court of Common-Pleas at Weſtminſter, *and one of his Majeſty's moſt Honourable Privy Council.*

My Lord,

IN the Monarchical Government of the Famous and moſt Uſeful Fly the BEE, none is ſufferd to be idle, but every Day a

ſtrong Detachment goeth out to gather the precious and balſamick Cream from the moſt odoriferous Flowers; every one carefully brings Home a Cargo, and delivers it to the ſeveral Overſeers, Engineers, and Architects appointed to receive it within the Gates of the Royal and Metropolitan City, the HIVE.

In this, is an amazing Structure of Store-Houſes, wherein the imported Treaſure is depoſited, as a neceſſary Proviſion for the Subſiſtance of the KING, and all his Subjects, againſt the hard and barren approaching Winter.

This Noble Example hath excited me to an Imitation, which I could not acquit myſelf of, but by making a Collection of Arguments, grounded upon the

the firm and ſolid Baſis of Experience; which the Almighty hath been pleaſed, to give me an Opportunity to acquire, during a PRACTICE of above Forty Years.

The diſmal Proſpect of a deſtroying Diſeaſe in a Foreign Neighbouring Country, puts us in mind of (*proximus ardet Ucalegon.*) Therefore as a Phyſician, I have endeavoured, to bring in my Quota of Aſſiſtance, as far as my Ability would allow.

Amongſt the many great Men, who are moſt deſervedly ſingled out, to have the Superintendance and Management of the Publick Weale, under our moſt Auguſt MONARCH, King *GEORGE*, (whom God long preſerve) I reſolved to make my moſt humble

Addreſs

Addreſs to your Lordſhip, to whom I make a Preſentation of this little Share of mine, which, I hope, may receive an Improvement from Abler Heads, and anſwer my End, *The Publick Good.*

Your Lordſhips Univerſal Learning, even in the moſt Abſtruſe Subjects, your uncorrupt Mind, in the exerciſe of Impartial Juſtice; your Affability, your conſtant Equanimity, and your indiſſoluble Attachement to His MAJESTY, and the preſent HAPPY CONSTITUTION, are the Natural and Irreſiſtible Motives which induced me to take the Liberty to offer to your Lordſhip, this, though imperfect Token, of the Tranſcendent Eſteem and Veneration, which your exalted Virtues, deſervedly claim of the preſent AGE, and future GENERA-

NERATIONS, but moſt particularly from

Your Lordſhips

From my Houſe, in *Mancheſter Court, Chanel-Rowe, Weſtminſter.* 1721.

Moſt ſincerely Devoted,

and moſt Obedient Servant,

PHILIP ROSE.

A

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TREATISE

ON THE

PLAGUE.

THE *Plague* is an Acute, Popular,* and Contagious Diſeaſe, which in a ſhort Time diſpatcheth many of thoſe whom it Affects.

* *Definition.*

In moſt Countries, this Diſtemper createth an unuſual Fear, and the generality of Mankind, are more afraid of it, than of an invading and cruel Enemy.

I have often, before this Time, Meditated on this Subject, and I think that though at preſent we are not afflicted with the *Plague*, however we have amongſt us ſo many acute Diſeaſes that ſeize upon Mankind unawares, and carry them off ſo abruptly, that I wonder that thinking People are not poſſeſt with the Fear of ſuch Diſeaſes, as the Bills of Mortality give an Account of every Week.

What more acute and ſudden Diſeaſes can be heard of, then a *Syncopa*? which is a ſudden Deficiency, and perfect Stop of the Irradiation of the Animal Spirits, occaſioned by the Uſe of Extreams; particularly, in conſorting over-much with *Venus*, or *Bacchus*, or both. What think you of an *Apoplexy*? Which at one, and the ſame Time [if ſtrong] depriveth a Man both of Senſe and Motion, and commonly of Life. I will mention the Small-Pox, violent and continual Spotted Feavers; which latter, amongſt the Learned Phyſicians, are reckoned the neweſt Relations to the *Plague*.

Though a *Syncopa*, or an *Apoplexy*, are really ſuch dreadful Diſtempers, I don't find that any Body Minds them, or is affraid of them. Every Body whether Fat or Lean, joggs in his own Way of Living, and no Body taketh Care to prevent them.

Now I do ask ſeriouſly, any Man of Senſe and Thought, whether as he was once Born, and had a Beginning? whether, *I ſay*, he muſt not have an End, pay his Tribute to Nature, and conſequently Dye? I beg the moſt Ingenious Mr. *Aſgill*'s Pardon; for it is far from me, to put the Queſtion to him.

Again, I will ask any Body, that is troubled with a moſt raging Pain in his Kidneys and Bladder, occaſioned by the *Stone*, and hopeth for no Comfort or Relief, the Stone or Stones being ſo large, that it is Death, to force them into the *Uretors*; or impoſſible to take them out of the Bladder, by Lithotomy,

tomy, without the torturing Pains of the Operation, and even Death, if the *Stone* be too large, as it often happens: Or any one ſo unfortunate as to be afflicted with a *Cancer*, a Woman in the Womb; a Man, or a Woman with a *Cancer*, particularly in the Tongue? Whether I ſay ſuch terrible Diſtempers are not worſe than the *Plague* itſelf. The Affirmative, I hope to prove hereafter.

Of theſe moſt grievous and formidable Caſes, I will content myſelf with relating ſome Inſtances.

Firſt, A Commander of a Ship, about thirty Years ago, came Home from the *Weſt-Indies*. He had a hard Swelling in his Tongue, Livid, Ulcerated, very Painful, and a moſt ſtinking Matter iſſued from the *Ulcer*; which notwithſtanding the continual Care of his *Surgeon*, who was very Skillful; however every Time that this Patient did eat or drink, he complained that he could not Reliſh either Meat or Drink, ſuch Noiſomneſs went down his Throat along with them. The Baſilare Glands under the Tongue, were alſo Scirrhous and Cancerous.

A Conſultation of *Phyſicians* was deſired, whereof I was one.

Many Medicines both inward and outward were preſcribed, but without Succeſs, for the Ulcerated *Cancer*, after Corroding the whole Tongue, did likewiſe eat up all the ſubjacent Glands, and even the inferior Jaw-Bone: It proceeded ſo far, as at laſt to expoſe the Epiglotte of the Larings to our Sight. Many *Hemorrhages*, or great *Fluxes* of Blood, burſt out of the Blood-Veſſels, which from Time to Time were ſtopt; 'till at laſt it was beyond the Power of Art, to ſtop the Blood, and ſo he died. The late Lord *Hunſdon* had the like Misfortune, being Tormented with a *Cancer* in the Tongue; which after ſome Months of exquiſite Torture and Miſery, did end in his Death.

Second Instance. A Gentlewoman about 17 Years ago, sent for me, she did complain of a continual pain in her Back, accute pains in the Womb, sometimes an *Ischuria* or *Retention* of Urine did increase the number of the tormenting Symptoms. She was about fifty Years of Age, pretty Tall, and had several Children in her Time, whereof at that Time only one or two Daughters were alive and healthy.

Upon a Search, I found a hard Scirrhous Swelling, as big as a small Hens Egg, upon the Urethra within the Vagina, the inward Neck of the Womb was inequally tumid, and more than Scirrhous. I found but little Encouragement to prescribe her any Thing: However I Ordered her some Diureticks, which for several Times did remove the stoppage of Urine. At last, I found the frequent Returns of the *Ischuria*, more Difficult and Rebellious, and she grew worse and worse, notwithstanding the Diet-Drinks, and altering Medicines which I directed.

This Patient finding that ever since she had imployed me, I had given her no great Hope of Recovery, and being told of a Lithotomist *Physician*, [who had been thrown into Prison, by the College of *Physicians*, for his *Mala Praxis*, being too free with the use of Cantharides] she was perswaded to send for him to Cure her of her Retention of Urine. She desired me to consult with him: We met, and he began to Extol himself to the Skies, for what he could do in those desperate Cases: He did not doubt but to Cure her also of that Scirrhous, and Cancerous Tumor she had in her Womb; for, *saith he*, I have Cured five hundred, that were in a worse Condition, than you, *Madam*.

I contented myself with making some few Objections, which being attended with my tacit Opinion, that the Man had been guilty of Errors in his Practice, however his positive Assertion that he could Cure this Woman, induced me to believe Charitably,

Charitably, that he had ſome Grains of Truth and Honeſty; which induced me to agree to his Preſcription; which was ten or twelve Grains of the Powder of Cantharides, mixt with ſome Crumb of white Bread, with about eight Grains of Camphire, made into Pills, to be taken at one Time, and to be repeated every ſix or eight Hours, drinking Cows Milk plentifully after.

The Firſt doſe did indeed ſucceed, and the Patient made Water plentifully.

The next Day when I came to ſee her, ſhe told me ſhe could not entertain two Phyſicians; that I never gave her any great Encouragement, therefore ſhe deſired I ſhould not Trouble myſelf with coming again.

I anſwer'd the Patient, that at her Deſire, I did conſult with her new Phyſician; that I would put her to no charge; I deſired only I might have the Liberty of coming to ſee her, and ſhe agreed to it.

The next Day I came, and found her in a kind of a Rapture about her new Doctor. She upbraided me, that I never gave her any great Hope; but now ſhe had a heavenly Man, who, ſhe did not doubt, but could cure her.

For a Demonſtration of the Reaſon of her Belief, ſhe told me ſhe had voided a piece of Fleſh, almoſt as big as a Hen Egg, and ſhe found herſelf much more eaſy than before.

I perſuaded her, to give me leave to ſearch her again, and ſhe conſented.

I found that the Swelling adherent to the Urethra, within the Vagina, was quite gone. At this, I was not a little ſurprized, and I had an Occaſion to meditate on the prodigious Effects of Cantharides. At laſt, I concluded that if Cantharides had ſuch a wonderful Operation on the Scirrhous Swelling of the Urethra, they might probably have the

like

like effect on the ſcirrhous Body of the Womb. But then what muſt be the Conſequence? Could the ſcirrhous Body of the Womb be ſevered and forced away, as the mention'd Tumour, and I think, or any body elſe, that this Woman could live?

I was ſoon delivered of my anxious Thoughts: For that Woman was taken with a violent *Feaver*, *Delirium*, *Convulſions*, mortal Symptoms; ſo ſhe died in few Days after.

From theſe Inſtances, one hath great Reaſon, not to be afraid of the *Plague*; which, with all its Attendants, cannot, in ſober Minds, be ſo formidable as the mentioned Diſtempers.

I know it will be objected, that thoſe Diſtempers, (except a *Syncopa*, and *Apoplexy*, the ſmall *Pox* and malignant *Fever*) are equal to Chronical Diſeaſes, which are called Chronical, becauſe they laſt forty Days, and often much longer.

My Anſwer is, That in the *Small-Pox*, malignant *Fevers*, and in the *Plague* itſelf, you have a Chance for your Recovery: But in a perfect *Syncopa*, and *Cancer* in the Womb, or in the Tongue, there is no Hope of a Cure; ſo that I hope I have ſufficiently Demonſtrated, that the *Small-Pox*, malignant *Fevers*, and even the *Plague*. are not to be dreaded ſo much as a ſtrong *Syncopa*, violent *Apoplexy*, a *Cancer* in the Womb, or in the Tongue.

I cannot forbear writing a Word more concerning *Cantharides*. I conſider them as a ſharp two edged Sword, which in the Hands of an ignorant, bold and raſh *Empirick*, may do a vaſt deal of Miſchief; but being handled by a learned and diſcreet Phyſician, may do a great deal of good: Which I prove by the Inſtance following.

About ten Months ago, I was deſired to viſit a young Surgeon, who was, a little before, come back from the *Weſt-Indies*, where he had for two Years and odd Months, ſerved a-board a Man of War,

War, in the Capacity of a Surgeon's Mate. Being extremely afflicted now and then with the *Stone* in the Kidneys, having voided ſeveral, as big as a ſmall Horſe-bean, he found himſelf incapable of ſerving any longer, therefore, with leave of his Captain, he returned home.

This young Man I found in a deep *Delirium*, with a total Suppreſſion of Urine, which had laſted about three or four and Thirty Hours.

Doubtleſs the Urine being ſuppreſſed, flew up into his Head, and was the cauſe of his *Delirium*; to which, I underſtood he was conſtantly ſubject, whenſoever a Fit of the *Nephritis* invaded him.

I ordered him ſome emollient and diuretick Clyſters, and every Hour to take in a Glaſs of Rheniſh, five or ſix Drops, of a Preparation of Cantharides, elixirated with proper Menſtruums. I had ſo good a Succeſs, that in few Hours after the firſt Doſe, he began to urine. After the ſecond Doſe, perceiving that he began to make Water plentifully, I directed the Doſe to be repeated only Morning and Night, and that he ſhould drink Barley Water plentifully. All Things ſucceeded according to my Deſire, and he was freed from his *Delirium* in very few Days. When I obſerved that he began to be affected with a *Dyſuria*, or Pain in making Water, I gave over all manner of Diureticks, ordered him to keep to the Barly-water, and take an Anodine Emulſion at Night. This Method did ſet him up in few Days, and ſince that time, he had no return of a Nephritick Fit. I did not obſerve in that ſhort Courſe of Phyſick, that he voided any Stone. He hath been ſo well ſince, that he began to learn to fence; but upon my Advice to the contrary, he left off that violent Exerciſe, moſt dangerous for any Body troubled with the *Stone* in the Bladder, and particularly in the Kidneys. I met him in St. *James's* Street about the 10th of *Jan.*

1721. he told me that he felt no Pain in his Back, nor voided any Gravel or Stone. By these Accounts it appears, that Cantharides blindly and improperly given, will kill; again, if prudently and skillfull used, may be of exceeding Service.

Now I return to my Definition of the *Plague*; which is an Acute, Popular and Contagious Disease, which dispatcheth many of those whom it Affects.

* *Explanation of the Definition of the Plague.*

That the * *Plague* is an acute Distemper, is easily proved; all Physicians agree, that an acute Disease runs it's Course in few Days, whatsoever Distemper extends to 40 Days is reputed Chronical.

Again there is a variety of acure Diseases; for some in few Hours, some in few Days, some in fourteen, some in more, some in fewer Days act their Tragical Part. Amongst the several Kinds of them, the *Plague* and Malignant *Fevers* are generally of a shorter Duration; and therefore often deserve the Name of *Superacute*.

That the *Plague* is Epidemick or Popular, it appears, by its seizing on many at once, and for the most part is attended with Pathognomick or peculiar Symptoms, which distinguish it from other epidemick Distempers.

That the *Plague* is Contagious, no Body doubts, and that it dispatcheth many of those whom it Infects, needs no further Proof, than what all Physicians, that have written of the *Plague*, do unanimously affirm.

* *Symptoms of the* Plague.

The Symptoms are several, as Head-Ach, inclination to Vomit, lowness of Spirit, Restlesness, Spots, Buboes, Parotides, Carbuncles, which last are the most Authentick Signs of the *Plague*: Therefore deservedly called the Tokens.

The

THE next Thing that cometh under Consideration, is the Cause, or Causes of the * *Plague*; which I take to be of two Sorts; Domestick and Foreign.

* *The Causes of the* Plague.

THE * Domestick Causes of the *Plague* are of two Sorts. The first are such as arise from a Pestilential Air, occasioned by Poisonous, Mineral, Arsenical Exhalations, which sometimes Ascend out of the Bowels of that part of the Globe of the Earth, where we do Inhabit, and do impregnate our Atmosphere, with deleterious volatile Salts and Sulphurs, wherewith our Bodies are not only encompassed, but even are admitted into the Lungs by Inspiration, and thence communicated and dispersed through the whole Machine of the Body.

* *First Domestick Causes, of the* Plague.

IF the cutaneous Pores are so pervious, as to give admittance to Mercury or Quick-silver, and cause a Salivation: If Spirit of Turpentine applied to any Part of the Body, give a Flavour of Violets to Urine, no doubt but pestilential Exhalations, when the Air is infected with them, will meet with thousands of Doors, whereby to penetrate into the most inward Parts of our Bodies, and perform their destroying Part.

AGAIN, the Lungs, by Inspiration of the same Air, and having Pores more laxe and open than the Skin, will sooner admit the Infection.

THE Heart being placed between the right and left Lobes of the Lungs, the pulmonary Blood-Vessels, can very soon convey the Contagion to the Heart.

ALL our Historians that have given a fair Relation of the *British* Mines, do agree that now and then, such destructive Exhalations do break forth now and then in the several Mines, as in a Moment, or a very short Time, put a fatal Period to the Workmen's Lives.

I think it highly probable, that the great *Plague* of *Naples*, which, as Related, ſwept away 20000 Men in one Day, was occaſioned by Antimonial, and Arſenical Exhalations from the famous *Veſuvius*, which is not much diſtant from that noble and ancient City.

I am convinced that amongſt Minerals, there is a great Variety, and that they may be ſo ſeperate one from another, that one Time and often, there will be only mild Sulphurous Exhalations, which may rather tend to the purifying of the Air, than the infecting of it; provided, they don't ſally out very thick, for if they do, then ten to one, they do choak Men that are by, particularly, ſuch as are down within the Mines.

AGAIN, at other Times, when the ſubterraneous Fire hath conſumed the mild ſulphurous Particles, it may, at laſt, reach to another Sort of a Mineral Sulphur, which partaking of a Malignant Arſenical Quality, may be exploded into the Atmoſphere, and infect the Air with Peſtilential Atoms.

AMONGST the ſeveral deſtructive Exhalations, which ſome Countries are more ſubject to, than Others, I may relate what the Famous *van Helmont* mentions in his Treatiſe of the *Stone*.

ABOUT the Year 1320. between *Ruſſia* and *Tartary*, in 64 Degrees of Latitude, not far from the lake *Ketay*, a Horde or Tribe of *Baſchirds*, was throughly changed into Stones, with all their Cattle, Waggons, and their very Arms; and it is reported, that to this very Day, there are to be ſeen the Men, their Camels, Horſes, Cattle, all their Waggons, and Arms turn'd into Stones, in one Night. A horrid Spectacle! *van Helmont de Lethioſi, page*, 665.

THE worthy Conſul *Baker*, who lived ſeveral Years at *Algiers*, in a publick Character, hath given me

me much the like Account of a Tribe of *Moors*, who with their Cattle, *&c.* were converted into Stones. Of this kind of Tranſmutation, there are many more Hiſtories, too long for my preſent Deſign to relate. However, I ſhould think myſelf Deficient, if I did not impart to the Publick, a moſt Remarkable Account, which the late Learned, and moſt Celebrate Philoſopher Mr. *Robert Boyle*, did acquaint me with, one Day being with him at his Houſe in the *Pall-Mall*, after ſeveral Diſcourſes, between him and I, about Experimental Philoſophy and ſome peculiar Chymical Operations; he told me that he had a viſit from an Ingenious Surgeon, lately returned from the *Eaſt-Indies*: This Surgeon being at the Iſland *Maccaſſar*, was admitted to the Audience of the King of that Iſland. The King put ſeveral Queſtions to him about Medicinal Matters, which he did anſwer to the beſt of his Capacity, by the help of an Interpreter; at laſt, the King told him that he had a Treaſure in his Dominions, which was as Precious as a Golden Mine, However, *ſaith the King*, I have it not under Ground, but I get it out of ſome ſort of Trees that grow in this Iſland, I keep them in Groves, and I do conſtantly maintain a Guard about them, for fear of Thieves. The product of thoſe Trees, which is a Juice I do exchange for Gold, and other Commodities, which I want in my Country; all the great Princes and Emperors of the *Indies*, ſend hither for it: It is one of the moſt precious and particular Poiſons, that the *Indies* afford. The Operation of it is quick and ſurprizing. To convince you it is ſo, I will Order a Criminal, who is now in Priſon, and condemned to Dye, to be the Subject upon which you ſhall ſee to morrow the Experiment performed. Accordingly the Surgeon came to the appointed Place, which was the Priſon, and was uſher'd into a

Room, where was the Executioner, and ſoon after the condemned Criminal was brought in.

The Priſoner was a luſty brawny Man, quite naked; and though he knew he came to Dye, however, he did not appear dejected or affraid of Death, which he knew was ſoon to follow.

The Executioner had a Trunk, and ſome ſhort Arrows, with a thin and ſharp Point of Wood poiſoned. The Executioner asked the Surgeon, to what part of the Man's Body, he would have him blow his Arrow. The Surgeon told him, the fleſhy Part of his Arm.

Immediately the Executioner blew one of the Arrows, wherewith he hit the brawny Part of one Arm, then he made haſte to the Sufferer, and ſnapped the Point of the Arrow, and left part of it in the Man's Fleſh. The Man immediately after he had received his Wound, walked to and fro in the Room, without any ſign of Fear or Diſcompoſure, for a few Minuits: At laſt, without change of Countenance, or Convulſion, he dropt down dead.

The Surgeon brought with him ſome of the Poiſon, which that King gave him, and he made a preſent of it to the moſt Worthy Mr. *Boyle*; who not caring to Entertain ſo dangerous a Gueſt, Ordered it to be flung into the Houſe of Office.

Second Domeſtick Cauſes of the Plague.

Now I come to the ſecond Domeſtick Cauſes of the *Plague*, which generally ariſe from the want of Neceſſaries, and foul Feeding. We have pregnant Inſtances of that in Camps, and beſieged Towns. Without encumbering my ſelf with a multiplicity of Quotations, I will appeal to any one that was at the Camp of *Dundalck*.

The moſt Famous, Brave and Wiſe Duke *Schomberg* was then General; the Encampment laſted moſt part of the Winter, and did prove very Rainy.

The

The Soldiers could not be ſupplied ſufficiently with dry Straw to lye upon in their Tents. Fewel was but ſcarce, as well as Proviſion. Beer or Ale were drank often out of the Keeve, before it was cold or worked in the Barrel. Our new raiſed *Britiſh* Soldiers did eat their Meat half boiled. All theſe great Difficulties, which our Army did labour under, brought Epidemick *Fevers* among them, particularly, the Bloody *Flux*, which Swept away [as I was informed] two thirds of that Army. There was in Oppoſition to our Army, at leaſt, fifty thouſand Men, with the late King *James* at their Head.

The moſt Illuſtrious Duke *Schomberg* kept his Camp, againſt all the Force of the Enemy, and, at laſt, when he thought it Convenient, he made a moſt Honourable Retreat.

The *Dutch* Auxiliary Soldiers, who made part of our Army at *Dundalck*, were Veteran Soldiers, inured to the hardſhips of Encamping, and by their Experience, took better Care of themſelves. They ſeldom, if at all, drank hot Wort, they boiled their Meat throughly, and inſtead of Beer, they drank the Broth of their Meat, now and then a Dram of *Genever*. Thus they preſerved themſelves.

At *Londonderry*, they did not fare better, for in that long Seige they were forced to undergo; they did eat Dogs and Cats, Tallow, raw Hides, and all manner of Traſh; with a continual Fatigue in watching and other hardſhips, as at *Dundalck*, which did ſo corrupt their Blood, and ſunk their Vitals, as many died of Epidemick Diſeaſes. To declare my Mind Honeſtly, I did not enquire, whether their Diſtempers were attended with Peſtilencial Buboes, or Carbuncles, though it is not improbable they might. Upon the whole, I am perſuaded, that if the real *Plague* was not amongſt them, they had an *Equivalent*.

Should I relate what *Fevers*, called Camp-*Fevers*, they have had in ſeveral Camps, and beſieged Towns, it would be eaſy for me to confirm what I have ſet down in the foregoing Lines, *viz.* want of Neceſſaries for Life, ill Food, Watchings, and unuſual hard Labour, in Mining, Countermining, ſudden Alarms, and all the dreadful Companions of War, will make a deep Impreſſion upon the beſt Conſtitutions, and throw them into Epidemick Malignant Diſeaſes, and even the *Plague*, which, undoubtedly, had its Original from this ſecond Claſs of Domeſtick Cauſes, as well as from the firſt.

I remember that ſome Years ago, a Phyſician, did write, that the Epidemick Diſtempers, which did rage at *Dundalck*, were occaſioned by the want of Salt. This prompted me to enquire into that Matter; and, after I had got an Authentick Information from ſeveral Officers, that were in that Camp, I underſtood that Salt was ſold in that Camp for ſix Pence a Quart. I am convinced of the Truth of the Information I had from thoſe Gentlemen; therefore the Epidemick Diſtempers which raged in that Camp, did not proceed from the want of Salt, but from ſuch Cauſes as I mentioned before.

What I do write next, may appear to ſome People, as a far fetched Digreſſion. However, as variety, not Incongruous, may be acceptable, ſo I will venture upon a Relation of a Diſcourſe I had with Mr. *Radiſon*, a *French* Man, in King *Charles* the Second's Time, in Relation to Salt.

This *Radiſon* went young to *Hudſon*'s Bay, to one of the *French* Factories, where he abode two or three Years; his curious and rambling Mind, moved him to go to the Native *Americans*, he lived with them about twenty Years. In that Time he learned their Language, and Manners; and uſed himſelf to their Way of Living. In

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the Summer he went with them a Fishing, and in the Winter a Hunting, they killed red Deer, and Geese.

On a Winter-Day, *Radisson* went out with two of the *Americans* a Shooting: He parted from them in the Woods, and at about a Mile's distance from them, he met a Fat brawny Deer, which he did make a Shot at. He wounded the Deer but not so as to shoot him Dead. *Radisson* knowing the Nature of those wild Creatures, immediately looked about him for the most convenient Tree to climb up: He endeavoured to climb, but the Snow about the Body of the Tree, made it so slippery, that he could not get up. *Radisson* expecting no less then to be goared by the Stag, he commended himself to God's Providence, fell flat upon his Face on the Snow, his whole Length,

The wounded and revengeful Stag, came up to him, went round about him, and smelt at him. *Radisson* kept his Breath as much as possible all that while. Then the Stag trod upon him for some Time, but at last dropt down Dead by *Radisson*'s side.

The two *Americans*, from whom *Radisson* had separated, did hear the Report of his Gun, and thinking that he had met with some Game, repaired to him as fast as they could. It being then very calm and serene Weather, the *Americans* made a nice and right Judgment of the Place from which the noise of the Gun came. Without much wandering, they came up to *Radisson*, he was prodigiously bruised by the treading of the Deer, and was so benumb'd with Cold by laying on the Snow, that he could hardly speak.

The two *Americans* carried *Radisson* to their Habitation, which was about a Mile and a half from thence. When brought Home, they left him to the

the Care of their Wives, who are the Phyſicians in that Country, and went back to fetch the dead Stag.

The Method of Cure which the *American* Women did uſe for the recovery of *Radiſon*, as he did aver to me, was this: The Women went into the Woods, and gathered the Tops of Fir and Pine-Trees, brought them to their Hut, and boiled them in Snow-water in a Caldron; then they made a ſufficient lay of them upon a kind of a Couch, and upon it did lay down their Patient, immediately after, they did cover his whole Body with the ſame Ingredients hot, and over that ſome ſuch Rugs or Coverlids as they uſe in that Country.

Radiſon, in a ſhort time found Eaſe, and three Days after, was ſo far recovered, as to be able to go abroad again.

One thing more I have to ſay of Mr. *Radiſon*, that upon my Enquiry about the Diſtempers of *North America*, he told me that generally that People are ſtrong and well made, inured to Exerciſe, as Hunting and Fiſhing; never ſubject to the *Gout*, *Rhumatiſm*, *Rickets*, *Evil*, or *ſore Eyes*: They are very faithful to their Wives, and not inclined to debauch Virgins? when they brought in any Veniſon, they would uſe great Hoſpitality; inviting their neareſt a-kin, and Neighbours, offering them the Cream of the Boiler, which is the Scum of the boiled Veniſon. They never gave over till all was ſpent, and then they went out again merrily, to look out for freſh Game, and a new Purchaſe.

They never uſe any Salt, and *Radiſon* told me, that he was ſo uſed to their Diet, that if he did eat or taſte any Meat, that had any Salt on, it was to his Palate worſe than bitter Soot. Furthermore, *Radiſon* told me, that becauſe of the uncertainty in their hunting in the Winter, they did before it, provide. For before the Winter whatſoever Stags they killed, they did cut Stakes off the brawny

Parts

parts of the Haunches, and other fleshy parts, and did barbecue them on Hurdles, supported by four Stakes, the Hurdles standing about three Foot above ground, a throughly burnt Fire of Wood under the Hurdle, drying up the Meat to that degree, that it could be pounded to a Powder in Troughs: With this Powder, mixed with the Fat and Marrow of the Stag, they made a Mash, which they put up in Bladders, then hung them up in their Smoaky Huts. In the Winter, as they have Occasion, they make use of this Provision, which sometimes proveth so hard, that they are fain to cut the Bladders with a Hatchet. With this hung Venison they make good strong thick Broth, which serveth them instead of Meat and Drink all the Winter.

This Traveller I came acquainted with in Mr. *Boyle*'s time, who was a Member and an Encourager of *Hudson Bay*'s Company. *Radison* had run first from the *French* to the *Americans*, and afterwards from the *Americans* to the *English* Factory, to which he did signal Service. Therefore when *Radison* came over from *Hudson*'s *Bay* to *England*, that Company allowed him 100 Pounds a Year for his Services. But this Salary, as the Company's Trade fell, so *Radison*'s Pension dwindled to nothing.

From these Premises I may conclude very reasonably, that those Nations that use not Salt, are the freest from Distempers. But again, Those Nations that are used to Salt, cannot well live without it. I remember, that about Fifteen Years ago, my Wife being out of Town, my Servant roasted me a piece of Mutton: When the Meat was set upon the Table, there was no Salt; I sent my Servant immediately for Salt, but indeed I was so hungry that I could not stay for it, and my Servant out-stayed his time. I sat down with an extraordinary Appetite, and satisfy'd my Hunger before my Servant

brought Salt: I drank ſome Glaſſes of the beſt Manufacture of *Great Britain*; however, about one or two Hours after my Dinner, I found myſelf very Sick, and ready to caſt up; whereupon I drank ſome Glaſſes of generous Wine, and my Sickneſs went off. I muſed for ſome time upon this Indiſpoſition of mine, which to me was unuſual. At laſt I concluded, that the want of Salt with my Meat was the Occaſion of it. For Salt, where by its conſtant Uſe for ſo many Generations, is become habitual, 'tis alſo Neceſſary. If any one ſhould go about to wean himſelf from it, I think he ought to do it with Caution, and very gradually.

I hope I have given a ſatisfactory Account of the Domeſtick Cauſes of the *Plague* in its proper Place, wherefore I think it cometh in courſe, to mention the Foreign Cauſes of that Diſtemper.

Foreign Cauſes of the Plague.

Moſt Nations entertain a Correſpondence one with another, by Navigation. The *Britains* in particular, have extended their Commerce to the fartheſt Parts of the Earthly Globe: By their Improvements in Navigation, they have made great Diſcoveries in Foreign Countries. By their Naval Power, they became Lords of the Seas, and Arbiters of the Differences, which ariſe from time to time, amongſt the Potentates of *Europe*.

Great Britain, as it is an Iſland, and its Inhabitants, of an immemorial Time have taſted of Foreign Products, moſt agreeable to their Palats, and are become acquainted with the ſumptuous and moſt beautiful Silks, the moſt fragrant, and cordial Spices of the *Indies*, and many other Commodities, imported by Shipping into this happy Iſland, ſo they have made themſelves obnoxious to the Importation of the *Plague*.

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The manner of Importation is eaſily accounted for.

Cotton, Silks, Cammels-Hair, Wool, are the moſt proper Vehicles of the Infection; Wine and Oyl I do not ſo much ſuſpect, becauſe Wine in itſelf is a Cordial, and an Antidote: Wine, after its Fermentation, being put up in cloſe Casks, and timely ſtopt, moſt commonly performeth a double, treble Quarantine, before it cometh to us; eſpecially if it cometh from *Cyprus*, *Candia*, or any part of *Aſia Minor*, or even from *Florence* or *Sicily*.

I think the ſame of Oyl, Currans, and any other Fruit, that is brought from *Zant*, or any of the nearer *Turkiſh* Dominions. I ſay the nearer *Turkiſh* Dominions: For I queſtion much, whether many of our trading Ships that go as far as *Scanderoon* and *Alexandria*, do not often hear of the *Plague*, or Peſtilential *Fevers* being in thoſe Countries, at the time of their coming there; however, they come Home, bring us Fruit, Wine, Oyl, and other Commodities; yet no Quarentine is performed but that of the Voyage.

Indeed I muſt confeſs, that where the Plague rageth ſo furiouſly, as it hath done of late at *Marſeilles*, I am for neither of their Silks, Wine, Oyl, Soap, Fruit, or any other Commodity of theirs; for the Contagion being there ſo full and predominant, I doubt not but every Thing that cometh from thence partaketh of the Peſtilence.

Mean time I will ſuppoſe, that one of our Ships taketh a Lading in a Foreign Country, where the *Plague* was in a manner ceaſed when that Ship came there; 'tis probable that the Ship's Crew may eſcape the Contagion of that Place; but then the Goods that they take into their Ship, having been packt up when the *Plague* was raging, is an Argument to me, that the Goods muſt be infected;

though the lock'd up Infection should not communicate itself to the Ship's Company while at Sea; however, it is very rational to believe, that those very Goods, when they come to be open'd, will infect such Persons as are near, at the time of opening: This giveth a freedom to the Contagious Particles to fly from their Prison, and diffuse themselves through the ambient Air.

Again, it may happen, that a Ship may take her Lading at a Place actually infected with the *Plague*, which, at that time, may be in its full Vigour and Exaltation; indeed, if a Ship take her Lading at such a Place, and the Goods were not packt up before the *Plague* broke out, one may expect the *Plague* will infect the Ship's Crew, and kill many of them before they come home. If it happens that by the change of Air, and navigating homewards, the *Plague* cease amongst the Ship's Crew; however, there is still a Contagion amongst the pack'd Goods, which will exert itself when it cometh to have Liberty.

How the *Plague* was brought in to *Marseilles*, I refer myself to all the Printed Accounts which agree, it was brought in by a Ship that came from an infected Place.

The Prevention of the Plague.

What followeth is the serious and wise Management to be used in order to keep off, and prevent the Infection of the *Plague*.

Our Neighbours the *French*, who have had a Noble and large part of their Country, so miserably afflicted with the *Plague*, have taken some of the most practicable Measures to prevent its spreading. They cast up Lines, and enjoined the *Marsellians* not to come beyond them, upon severe Punishment, extending to Death. Notwithstanding these Precautions, some of the *Marsellians*, or of the adja-

cent Country, did venture to force that Line, whereby probably, some part of the Country without the Lines was infected: Therefore they cast up a second Line, which, back'd with a River, fordable but in few Places, and by strong Guards placed in proper Places, they have hitherto hinder'd the Contagion from running in further into the Country.

That hath been the Care of the *French* Government, to keep off the Infection from Cities, Towns and Countries, within the Kingdom of *France* not infected; which otherwise might have undergone the same Calamity.

In *Holland* and in *Flanders*, they have fenced themselves as much as possible against the Contagion. They ordered a Quarantine to be performed by Ships coming from suspected Places. Not contented with this, they order'd, that all suspected Ships with their Cargoes, should be burnt. The Ship's Crew must wash and dip in the Sea, and I suppose fresh Clothes were ordered for them to put on after their own were burned; Subsistance was left at some good distance, which the Quarantine Men must fetch at certain Hours.

I must own, that all these Precautions are very Judicious; and I think the same Rules may be observed upon our *British* Coasts.

But if God, in his Anger, should please to visit us in *London*, or any other City, or Town in *Great Britain*, what is the most rational Thing to do then?

Suppose *London* was infected with Contagious imported Goods, which way shall we evade this Visitation, or protect other Cities and Towns of *Great Britain* from the Contagion?

As *London* is a vast City, the most Noble Metropolitan of *England*, if it was visited with the *Plague*, it would be very difficult to defend Cities and

Towns

Towns distant from it. For what Lines could be made, and be of any Service to keep the People of *London* and *Southwark*, from making an eruption, beyond the Lines: The large River of *Thames*, both below and above Bridge, is so full of Boats, that no Body that had a Mind to go beyond the Lines could be prevented; so many Thousands of Watermen must live by their daily Labour; they will venture against any Laws, to carry People beyond the Lines, rather than starve.

Again, If you should allow the Liberty, to People, to go from *London* over the Lines, to further Places in the Country, you must appoint some Officers, whose Business will be to inspect their Certificates, that they do not come from Houses and Families infected, which is a very difficult Point to compass, and may be asmuch put in Execution, as the Laws about keeping the Streets clean; which, however, is very Necessary at all Times, but most particularly in the Time of the *Plague*. Suppose again, that *London* is free from the *Plague*, but *Oxford*, *Bristol*, or any other Town is infected, can your *London* Lines prevent the Importation of the Disease? Your Lines may be well extended from *Blackwall* to *Chelsea*, and about *Southwark* in proportion: I will suppose that you have Redouts, and other Pieces of Fortification from Place to Place, and at a reasonable Distance one from another, with a sufficient number of Men to guard all the Posts: Pray, what doth all this signify? Is not *London* a huge Monster, whose immense Belly must be fed? From whence shall it be fed? It must certainly be by the *Western* Boats and Barges, and by all the below Bridge *Bear-Key* Ships, that bring Corn, Meal, Malt, Bacon, Butter, Cheese, and all other Necessaries for Life. Fish will not supply your City; you must have Beef, Mutton, and all manner of Eatables, which

which must come over and cross the Line. Can you be sure that the Men that drive the Cattle, and bring you every Thing else, for the support of Life, are not infected? I am sure no rational and serious Man can say, they are not, nor the Cattle also. If then we must have those Necessaries, what do Lines signify? I say they are useless with us, till some Body sheweth me the contrary.

Lines, I allow may be of use about lesser Towns and Cities. But I find that the Situation of *London* is quite different from that of other Towns, even from *Marseilles*, and that an imported *Plague*, may probably be kept within Bounds, in and about such Places by Lines, but in and about *London*, 'tis not in the Power of the best Ingineer to do it.

I expect to be asked, what will prevent the *Plague*, if Lines be insignificant as to *London*?

I own this Question is of Moment. But I will Endeavour to give what satisfactory Answer I am capable off.

First, As we were upon the Subject of imported Contagion, I think we ought to imitate the *Dutch* and *Flanderkins*, and do whatsoever else is in our Power to prevent the Landing of the Contagion.

Secondly, If we can't prevent the Landing of the Contagion, then we must more Vigilantly look to ourselves; every one that hears of his Neighbour, or Neighbours, dying of the *Plague*, must follow *van Helmont's* Advice; viz. *Colere Deum, & confortare Archeum*, to serve God seriously, and to Comfort one's Heart, with a Glass of good Wine: This last, ought to be done moderately. To a Religious Life, and a Glass of good Wine, now and then moderately taken, I add a brave and stedfast Resolution to Fear nothing.

Every one whose Business is not to make Visits to diseased Persons, I advise to see only such Friends as are in good Health: To avoid excess in Eating and Drinking. To walk abroad in open Fields, and not to give Way to any Passion whatsoever, especially that of Fear. How many have been taken ill of the *Small-Pox*, only by Fear. All our Exercises, let them be what you will, not to exceed Moderation. I am for good Flesh-Meat, rather than Fish. The Learned and Famous *Dicmerbrook* Physician to the Town of *Nimeguen*, tells me in his Account of the *Plague*, in which he was in the Year, 1633. 1634. 1635. that one, two, or three Glasses of Generous Wine, and a Pipe or two of Tobacco, would revive him, and set him to Rights, when after visiting diseased Patients, he found himself out of Order.

I do now, and God willing, will follow his Example, which I find when I am concerned in Malignant *Fevers* to Answer my End, and I hope may do the same in the *Plague*.

The Cure of the Plague.

My *third* Consideration is, the *Cure of the *Plague*.

Hippocrates, whom all the Learned Physicians allow to be the Patriarch of the Esculapian Tribe, according to the Remnant, and I believe Authentick Records, to be found in his Writings, was blessed with the Knowledge of the way of curing the *Plague*. But because I would avoid a prolix and tedious Account, therefore I will content myself with an Abstract out of *Hippocrates* himself.

Artaxerxes finding his most numerous Army afflicted with an Epidemick and uncommon Distemper, which swept away vast numbers of his Soldiers, did write to *Petus* a Physician, who was a Subject of his, to come to the relief of his Army, being

being bound thereunto by the Salary he then enjoyed, and future additional Rewards. *Petus* excuſed himſelf upon his Ignorance of that Diſtemper, and thought fit to recommend *Hippocrates* to his Maſter, King *Artaxerxes*. *Petus*, in his Anſwer to *Artaxerxes*, giveth an extraordinary Character, and a wonderful Encomium of *Hippocrates*; declaring that he could Cure thoſe Diſeaſes which no other Mortal Man could. Then he giveth *Hippocrates* his Deſcent and Pedigree, and like a Learned Herald, deriveth him at laſt, from *Jove* himſelf.

Upon this extraordinary Recommendation of *Hippocrates* from *Petus*, *Artaxerxes* did write to *Hyſtanes*, Vice-Roy of *Helleſpont*, as followeth.

The Fame and Glory of *Hippocrates*, of the Iſland of *Coos*, who is of the Race of *Æſculapius*, is come to my Knowledge; give him as much Gold as he deſireth, and all other Things as much as he requireth, and ſpare nothing. For I ſhall make him equal to the Grandees of *Perſia*. It is very difficult to find a Man of Capacity, and an able Counſellor.

Hyſtanes, in Obedience to his Maſter's Orders, writeth thus to *Hippocrates*.

Artaxerxes, the Great King, wants you, I am ordered to give you what Gold, Silver, and whatſoever you deſire; and you are to be made equal to the Princes of *Perſia*.

To this, *Hippocrates* made Anſwer.

Hippocrates the Phyſician, to *Hiſtanes*, Vice-Roy of *Helleſpont*, Joy.

Acquaint the King with this my Declaration. I want for neither Food nor Rayment, nor Houſes, nor any thing neceſſary for Life. For I enjoy all Things abundantly. 'Tis not lawful for me to make uſe of the *Perſians* Riches, nor to Cure Barbarians, who are the *Grecians* Enemies.

This Anſwer of *Hippocrates*, was ſent to *Artaxer-*,

xes, who, full of Anger and Indignation, did write to the Inhabitants of *Coos*, as followeth.

Deliver into the Hands of my Messengers, that *Hippocrates*, who is a saucy Man; he hath affronted me and the whole *Persian* Nation; if you do not do this, know ye, that I will punish you, for I will plunder and ruin your Town, and throw it into the Sea; so that no Man shall know hereafter, whether there was once such an Island as *Coos*, or a Town upon it.

The Answer of the People of Coos.

The People of *Coos* have thought fit to send back the Messengers of *Artaxerxes*, with this Answer. The People of *Coos* will act nothing unworthy of *Merops*, *Hercules*, or *Æsculapius*. All the Inhabitants are resolved not to part with *Hippocrates*, though a most cruel Death should be inevitable to them. *Darius* and *Xerxes*, heretofore, have requested the Use of some Land, and even begg'd Water of our Forefathers, which they did refuse to grant. For our Progenitors observed, that *Xerxes*'s Men were subject to Maladies, and Mortals as other Men. Therefore give over, and let alone the Inhabitants of *Coos* for ever; and know ye for certain, that the Gods themselves will protect us; and we do not, nor will betray *Hippocrates* into your Hands.

By this it appears, that *Hippocrates* was possessed with an extraordinary Knowledge of Diseases; that the Physicians, in his time, did entertain an Opinion, that he could Cure uncommon Distempers, such as they owned, they were not able to Cure themselves. We have an Account of him, that he did free *Greece* from the *Plague*; for which Service, the *Athenians* decreed, and paid him the same Honours

Honours as to *Hercules*. We are informed, that he did ſet ſeveral Foreſts on fire, to purify the Air; which, in my Judgment, was a ready way to deſtroy and carry off the Peſtilential Effluviums, in a great meaſure; as to his other Means or Remedies which he did uſe in the Cure of the *Plague*, I find we are in the Dark.

Some are of Opinion that he left, in Writing, his Method of Cure; but that his Manuſcripts were loſt in proceſs of Time.

Others think, that *Hippocrates*, becauſe of his inbred Averſion to the Barbarians, would not leave any Writings, that might teach them, how to preſerve themſelves as well as his own Country-men. This may be looked upon as a revengeful Humour upon his Enemies the Barbarians, but, at the ſame time, moſt Injurious to his own Counrry. All what I can ſay upon this is, that we have had an inſtance of this kind, even amonſt us; as when the Brave and Illuſtrious Sir *Walter Rawleigh* did commit to the Flames, the Second Book of his General Hiſtory of the World. Why? Becauſe he thought all Mankind, without Exception, to be unworthy of his Learned Labours. Thus *Hippocrates* might be influenced with the ſame Notion, and deprive us of that moſt deſirable and beneficial Method of Curing the *Plague*, which he was Maſter of.

In this great and Univerſal Loſs what can we do? But to have a recourſe to the famous and beſt Phyſicians, who have written of *Peſtilential Fevers*, eſpecially thoſe that we may call Modern; ſuch as *Riverius*, *Sylvius Deleboe*, and ſeveral others, particularly *Dickmerbrock*. They have left us very Rational Deſcriptions of Malignant, Epidemick, Peſtilential Diſeaſes, and their way of proceeding in the Cure thereof.

As I deſigned Brevity, ſo I have pickt out Authors, as I liked beſt. Therefore I cannot but recommend them to the preſent Age, and for a preſent Uſe, if ever we ſhould be put to it.

Whoever hath a Mind to know what theſe Authors ſay of Peſtilential Diſtempers, I do refer them to the Authors themſelves, and content myſelf with imparting, at preſent, what I have obſerved myſelf in the Time of above Forty Years Practice.

About 32 Years ago, a Maſter of a Ship came from the *Weſt Indies* to *London*, and lived at *Ratcliff*. My own Brother, who lived, and was of Note in thoſe Parts for his Skill in Midwifery and Phiſick, ſent me a Letter when I lived in *Leiceſter Fields*, to acquaint me that he had a Patient, labouring under an uncommon Diſtemper, and deſired me to come and ſee him. I went, and I found that the Man had an *Anthrax*, which I underſtood was preceded by a Carbuncle, between the Shoulders, as broad as the Palm of my Hand. The Patient complained of Faintneſs, *Nauſea*, or Inclination to vomit; his Pulſe was low and not quick. The *Anthrax* was of a livid Colour, Honey-comb like, and in its Circumference, ſeemed to have a tendency to ſeparate from the ambient Parts. After this Inſpection, my Brother told me in theſe Words: Brother, I have had the *Plague* in *London*, and I thank God, I recovered of it; though I was three or four Months after, forced to walk upon Crutches, by reaſon of a Peſtilential Bubo, which I had in my right Thigh, below the Groin. For, *ſaith he*, you muſt obſerve that what is called a Peſtilential Bubo, doth not directly or locally affect the Groin, but lyeth lower; which he ſhewed me, and I found a large and deep *Cicatrice* below the Groin. Now, *continued he*, if any Degree of the *Plague* was in *London*, or Suburbs, and any one died of it, this

this preſent Caſe would currently paſs for the *Plague*. *Saith he*, I am of Opinion, that this Patient ought to be treated as for the *Plague*. I have been concerned in it in my own Perſon, and with many others. Nothing will do here but Alexipharmacks inwardly, and as for outward Applications, they muſt be ſuch as will cauſe a perfect Separation of the *Anthrax*. By this Method we had a ſafe Separation and falling off of this Peſtilential, and putrify'd piece of Fleſh, and the Man did recover.

About Seventeen Years ago, Captain *Tuder* ſent for me to a Servant of his in *Brewer-Street Golden Square*, who had been removed to a Nurſe. This Man had been Sick three or four Days. I found him Delirious, but not to ſuch a Degree, but he knew me when I ſpoke to him. His Pulſe was pretty quick, but weak; he had a Blackneſs about his Eyes and his Face here and there, and his whole Body was overſpread with Black Eruptions like Weales; he was reſtleſs and thirſty. An Apothecary was ſent for at firſt, who did the beſt he could. The Patient growing worſe, his Maſter ſent for me. That Day that I came to him, the Apothecary had given him a purging Bitter Draught which did not purge him exceedingly; however, the Man grew worſe upon it. I had not been four Minutes with the Patient, when the Apothecary came in. I told him I wiſhed he had not purged him; for I looked upon this Caſe to be highly Malignant, and Couſin-jermain to the *Plague*. The Apothecary grew pale, and ſhewed much concern. I told him it was a Miſtake of his, and exhorted him another time to be more cautious. I preſcribed Alexipharmacks to no purpoſe, for the Patient died that very Day in the Evening.

What is moſt remarkable in this Caſe is, that when the Nurſe, with the help of ſome other Women, did ſtrip him, and laid him out, the Skin both

both of his Arms and Legs, or of any other Part which they graſped, came off, being of a Black Colour, and perfectly putrified.

By the Way, I will obſerve that in King *William*'s time, of glorious Memory, an Epidemick Diſtemper did rage amongſt Horſes, and ſwept away abundance of them. Some Years ago, another Epidemick Diſtemper did invade the Cattle, not only in *England*, but likewiſe in the *Netherlands*, *Germany*, and other Countries of *Europe*. Undoubtedly it was a kind of a *Plague* amongſt them, and it's worth our Examination, how that ſame Diſtemper did not extend to Mankind?

To account for this, I cannot do it better than in the Words of *Hippocrates*; he tells us in his Tract of *Flatus*, or the Air, *Page* 296, 297. *Sect.* 111. The Air is the Cauſe of Life, and of Diſtempers: There is ſo great a Neceſſity of Air for all Animals, that if any one be deprived of Food and Drink, and other Neceſſaries, he may, however, live three or more Days without them. But as to the Air, if any one wants it but one ſmall interval of the Day, he muſt neceſſarily die.

From the Air Diſtempers do likewiſe ariſe, and can hardly be occaſioned by any other Cauſe. When you have too much or too little of it, or when vitiated or filled up with unwholſome Particles, it penetrateth into the Body.

From the ſame Cauſe, I will prove that moſt Diſtempers do proceed. *Firſt*, I will begin with that Diſtemper which is the moſt Epidemick or Popular, which doth keep Company with all other Diſtempers, and particularly is attended with Inflamation. This is evident in the Diſorder that ſeizeth upon the Feet, Legs and Thighs. For ſoon after, Bubocs in the Groin, with a *Fever*, do follow.

Or

Of *Fevers* there are two ſorts. The Firſt common to many; which is called the *Plague*. The Second is occaſioned by any Body's irregular Diet. A common or Epidemick *Fever*, for the moſt part, invadeth every Body; becauſe Men breath one and the ſame Air. And that ſame Air entring into Bodies of the ſame Nature, *Fevers* therefore of the ſame Kind do ariſe.

Hippocrates mentions here an Objection; why Epidemic Diſtempers do not infect in general, all living Creatures, but ſome one of the Species.

His Anſwer is, That as the Bodies of one Species differ from another, ſo likewiſe they differ in Nature, and by their different Food, they muſt differ in their Conſtitution. Every Thing does not agree with the Conſtitution of every Species; but ſomething agrees with one Species and not with another. Therefore when the Air is impregnated and vitiated with ſuch Effluviums, as are contrary to Humane Nature, then Mankind is the Subject of the Diſeaſe. And when the Air's Conſtitution is ſuch, as to be unnatural to ſome one Species of Animals, then that very Species is obnoxious to a Diſeaſe.

I could make further Quotations out of *Hippocrates*, to explain in what manner other Diſtempers, not Epidemick, are produced, which in a moſt elegant and convincing Stile he doth deſcribe. But I do deſign to avoid Prolixity, I refer to that great Man's Writings, any Body, who hath a Mind to inform himſelf more perfectly.

For the Cure of the poorer ſort of People, that are the moſt ſubject to the *Plague*, by reaſon of their want of Neceſſaries for Life, and therefore can much leſs pay for the Medicines. I think that a Chriſtian Nation is indiſpenſably obliged to provide for them. I think it the Duty of all Mo-

ny'd Men, according to their Power and Circumſtances to contribute towards the building of Baracks in ſome airy Places, without the Circuit of *London*, for the Reception of all ſuch as are ſeized with that Diſtemper: To appoint Phyſicians, Surgeons and Apothecaries to take care of the Sick. To have good, honeſt and diligent Nurſes to attend them. To have ſome Repoſitories placed within ſome reaſonable diſtance one from another, where Medicines may continually be had for the Service of the Poor; and ſome Phyſicians may be appointed to ſurvey and inſpect the Simples, and direct their Preparations. I inſiſt the more upon this, becauſe *London* and *Weſtminſter* don't want Apothecaries, whoſe Buſineſs is to be provided with the beſt and moſt coſtly Medicines, which are only for the wealthy. Therefore I would only propoſe ſome few Medicines for the Poor, which are moſtly Galenical, with a few Chymical ones, which by the wiſe Management of ſome Honeſt and Learned Phyſicians, might do great Service to the Miſerable.

I have obſerved, that People that are Poor, inured to hard Labour, and ſeldom or never took Phyſick, were the ſooner helpt by Simple Medicines.

I remember, that above Thirty Years ago, when I lived in the Country, I relieved abundance of poor People, with no great Charge, when about that time an Epidemick Diſtemper did rage. Therefore I think it may be beneficial to the poor, to have, in a readineſs, ſuch Medicines as I deſign to ſet down at the End of this ſmall Treatiſe.

Since I am engaged in the Curative Part, I think it proper to my Subject to write ſomething in relation to the two famous Antidotes, ſo well known by their Names, *Theriac* and *Mithridate*.

Mathiolus, who was Phyſician to *Ferdinand*, King of the *Romans*, Archduke of *Auſtria*, *&c.* tells us in his

his Treatiſe of Plants, that neither *Theriac* nor *Mithridate*, in his time, did anſwer the End, which they were invented for. He giveth us his Reaſon. We want, *ſaith he*, many generous and precious Aromats, which being moſt excellent and genuine, were employed by *Mithridates*, *Attalus*, *Andromachus*, *Galen*, and ſeveral of the Ancients. The *Roman* Emperors in thoſe Days, ſpared no Coſt, Care, and Labour to purchaſe them, in the Countries of the *Arabs*, *Æthiopians*, *Triglodites*, and other Nations. It was not lawful for any Body, but the Emperor's Phyſicians, to compoſe and prepare the true Theriac.

I confeſs that *Mathiolus* did make that Complaint above a Hundred and Fifty Years ago. Since that Time, our Navigation to all Parts of the *Indies*, hath been improved exceedingly. I am ſatisfy'd if we have the true Receipt of *Theriac* and *Mithridate*, we cannot well want the Ingredients, even the very beſt. Beſides, there are ſuch Statutes now extant, relating to their Preparation, that I muſt ſay again, if we have the true Receipts, and prepare them as they ought, we cannot want the good effects of them. But ſince I have obſerved, that in Malignant *Fevers*, they did no extraordinary Service, except ſome Noble Chymical Medicine was added, I will not recommend them as Univerſal Medicines in Peſtilential *Fevers*, though they may be of Uſe in thoſe Caſes, particularly amongſt the Poor.

I muſt own myſelf to be perfectly of the Great *Boyle*'s Mind, That Simple Medicines, whether Galenical or Chymical, are to be preferred before all pompous Compoſitions, made up of ſo many different Ingredients, as muſt jar one with another; ſo that it is impoſſible for the wiſeſt Man to know what will be the Reſult of ſuch a dark and confuſed Mixture.

'Tis true, the Authors of Antidotes being conſcious of their Ignorance, did ſtudy to bring together a promiſcuous century of Drugs, in hope that amongſt ſuch a Number and Variety of Simples, there might be ſome of them that might hit the Diſtemper. I am of Opinion, that between ſo many Ingredients, there muſt be a conſiderable Action and Re-action, which may impair the Virtue of the moſt Specifick Simples, and fruſtrate the Phyſician of his intended and deſired End.

If Spitting be proper, in the time of Contagion, as a Learned Phyſician hath lately directed, then ſuch as ſmoak and do not ſpit, but ſwallow their Spittle, ought to learn to ſpit. However, I believe, that by waſhing one's Mouth with ſome good Wine, and drinking a Glaſs or two of the ſame, may more effectually prevent the Contagion. Thoſe Gentlemen and Ladies who don't ſmoak but take Snuff, it may be a Preſervative to them, provided they do not ſneeze with it. For if they ſneeze after Snuff, it will deprive them of that Fence, which Snuff imparts to the Noſtrils, by filling and ſtopping them, with a kind of a Cement, which may keep thoſe Parts from an Intruſion of the Infection through the Pores of that part of the Body.

It will be expected I ſhould ſay ſomething of Purgatives, in Peſtilential Diſeaſes. I declare I am utterly againſt them; though I confeſs that if any one wants to open his Body, for prevention ſake, a moderate Doſe of *Pilulæ Ruffi*, with one Drop of Chymical Oil of *Rue*, may give a Motion or two, without debaſing the Spirits.

As for *Opiats*, they ought to be omitted, and never to be uſed in the *Plague*, but with the utmoſt Caution. I have known that *Opiates* in Malignant Diſeaſes, have made the Patient much worſe, therefore are to be avoided.

Eme-

Emeticks I hardly approve of, except the milder ſort, particularly *Aqua Cardiaca*, or a ſmall Doſe of *Hippocraticum*.

Bliſters applied in Time may do good Service.

Bleeding I do renounce, except the Pulſe be high, full and quick, which ſeldom happeneth in the *Plague*.

Clyſters in this Caſe I am not for. I rather chuſe a Suppoſitory, or a *Clyſter* only of half a Pint of Sack warm.

A Fire is to be kept conſtantly in the Patient's Chamber, not ſo great as to over-heat the Room; and which muſt be made greater or leſſer, according to the Seaſon of the Year. You cannot imagin, what a deal of Morbifick *Miaſmata* are deſtroy'd, or carried away by a Fire wiſely managed.

I never was concerned with any Patient in the *Small Pox*, or Malignant *Fevers*, but I ordered more or leſs Fire to be kept in the Chamber, in proportion to the Seaſon of the Year, the warmth, heat, or coldneſs of the Weather.

I remember an Acquaintance of mine, a Phyſician, who had lived ſome Years in *Spain*, told me, that the *Spaniards* in all *Fevers*, order Cupping, not for the ſake of Evacuation, but only to have a view of the Blood, whereby they make a nice Judgment, whether the *Fever* be Malignant. Indeed I am ſorry that I did not ask my Friend by what Signs the *Spaniſh* Phyſicians diſcovered the Malignity. My Friend being dead, the Queſtion muſt be reſolved by thoſe that have been in *Spain*, and converſant in Medicinal Matters. Upon the whole, I am of this Opinion, if at any time in the *Plague*, there is an Indication for Bleeding, I wiſh it may be done by Cupping, and that moderately.

A CATALOGUE OF MEDICINES,

Which I think proper to be uſed in Peſtilential Diſeaſes, particularly in relation to the Poor. Mean time I am well ſatisfied, that the ſelf-ſame Medicines may be uſeful to the Great and Rich, whom, however, I am far from Confining; but may add, and uſe higher, and more coſtly Medicines.

AS *Theriaca Andromachi*, and *Mithridatium*, are not only two very old Preparations for Antidotes, ſo much in Vogue in the World, and uſed in private Families, it would look as a Preſumption in me, if I ſhould not give them a Precedence; give me leave only to remark, That the Compoſition of *Theriaca Andromachi*, is made up of Seventy Ingredients; again, ſome of the Ingredients are Compound.

Firſt, The Trochiſc of Squills, are made with Squills and Erubus. *Second-*

Secondly, Trochiſc of Vipers are made with the Fleſh of Vipers, boiled with Dill, a little Salt, white Bread twice baked, and ſome *Opobalſamum*, or Oyl of Nutmegs.

Thirdly, *Trochiſci Hedycroi*, are made up with yellow Saunders Leaves of Marjoram, Maſtich, Roots of Aſarabacca, Rhaphoritick Coſtus, Calamus Aromaticus, Chryſtalaloes Aloes, Cinnamon, Schænanthos, Opobalſamum, Caſſia Lignea, *Indian* Leaf of Mace, *Indian* Spicknard, Myrrh, Saffron, *Amomum*, or Cardamums, Maſtick, Canary Wine. The Sum whereof is as followeth.

1. Trochisks of Squills, 2 Ingredients.
2. Trochisks of Vipers, 5 Ingredients,
3. Trochisks Hedychroi. 20 Ingredients.

The two laſt Compounds amount to 27, which added to 70, ſubſtracting 3 for the three laſt Compounds, amounts to 94 Ingredients, that make up the *Theriacha Andromachi*. I ſay nothing in particular of Mithridate, for it is much like the former.

Be it as it will, I proceed in my *Catalogue*.

1. *Theriaca Andromachi.*
2. *Mitridatium.*

Next to theſe in a Third Rank, I muſt recommend a Compoſition, much ſimpler than the two former, which, by Experience, I have found to go beyond Theriac and Mithridate. I will be ſo juſt as to own, I had it from a Profeſſor of Phyſick beyond Sea, whoſe Diſciple I was for a time, and he was pleaſed to communicate it to all his Hearers, as followeth.

Take

Recip. Take of dry Rue Leaves, Leaves of Scordium, *Virginia* Snake-root, of each two Ounces. Angelica, Biſtort, Tormentil, Contrayerva, Imperatoria, Scorzonera, Zedoaria, Ariſtolochia Rotunda, of each two Ounces and a half. Vipers dried up, four Ounces: Beat all theſe together in a Mortar of Iron, rather than Braſs, and make a very fine Powder. To this Powder add a tripple Quantity of clarify'd Honey, whereunto add the Juice of one Pound of Juniper Berries, pounded and well moiſtned with a Pint of the beſt Canary Wine, then ſtrongly preſſed in a Preſs, in order to extract the Juice mentioned. Mix all theſe together according to Art, and make an Electuary, which keep in a Stone Jarr, with a Pewter Plate covering the top, and a Bullock's Bladder cloſely tyed over it.

The Doſe of this Alexipharmack Electuary, is one Dram Morning and Evening, more or leſs according to the Age of the Patient, and the urgency of the Diſtemper; with a Glaſs of Wine, Sack Whey, plain Poſſet, with ſome, or without, *Aqua Epidemica.*

Next after theſe, I do recommend ſome Chymical Medicines which I am morally certain, may be of ſingular Uſe to Cure the Poor, and may do Service to the Rich.

1. *Bezoardicum Minerale*, well deprived and freed by a due Calcination, from all Nitrous Spirits, ſo that it may be in a manner inſipid.

2. *Antimonium Diaphoreticum*, by ſundry Ablutions, free from all acrimonious Salts, and like the former, made almoſt inſipid.

3. *Ceruſa Antimonii*, made likewiſe inſipid by a due Preparation.

Note,

Note, That of late, I have met with ſome of thoſe Preparations not thoroughly dulcified. But let me tell you, that if prepared differently from that Method I have juſt now mentioned, they will not anſwer your Purpoſe: I have convinced ſome Phyſicians, that were of another Opinion, of their Miſtake; which did appear by Experience, made upon ſeveral Patients.

4. Cinnabar of Antimony, prepared by a regular Method, from ſublimed Mercurius Corroſivus and Antimony.

5. *Aqua Epidemica*, which may ſerve for an Univerſal Antidotal Cordial-water, being mixed with a proportionable quantity of cold ſtill'd Water, or inſtead of the laſt, good ſpring Water boiled with a Cruſt of white Bread, and ſome Scorzonera.

6. Spirit of Vitriol Dulcified.

Outwaard Medicines.

1. A good ſtrong Bliſtering Plaiſter.
2. *Emplaſtrum de Meliloto ſimplex, & Compoſitum.*
3. *Emplaſtr. Stickticum Paracelſi.*
4. *Emplaſt. Diachylum ſimplex, & Compoſitum.*
5. *Emplaſt. Diaphoreticum.*
6. *Emplaſt. de Betonica.*

Ointments or Balſams.

1. *Therebintina*, to make a Digeſtive.
2. *Balſamum Lucatelli.*
3. *Balſamum Aureum.*
4. *Ægyptiacum.*
5. *Aqua Phagedænica.*
6. *Spir. Vini Camphoratus.*

Oyls

OILS.

1. Of Roſes.
2. Of Lillies.
3. Of Rue.

If any one ſhould find Fault with this Order which I obſerve in mentioning theſe Materials, I will not concern myſelf about it, for I ſet down Things according as they come into my Mind, and Time doth not allow me to be ſo exact, eſpecially when no eſſential Error can be found by any reaſonable Man.

ALL the mentioned Medicines, both inward and outward, I do in my Conſcience believe, from the Experience I have had, for above Forty Years, in the CURE of Malignant *Fevers*, may be of an extraordinary Efficacy in the CURE of the *Plague*, when rightly applied.

POSTSCRIPT.

Postscript the First.

A NICE Question doth naturally arise, concerning the fixed Antimonials, particularly their manner of Operation.

I will not mention the different Opinions of Physicians, relating to this Matter; but content myself with setting down my Thoughts on that Head, which I hope may appear most probable, and consequently the nearest to Truth, and for ought I know, Truth itself, when examined by Learned and Candid Philosophers.

Every one who is, or hath been concerned in Antimonial Preparations, knows, that Antimony is full of Volatile, Acrid, Sulphurous, and injurious Salts, which if not avoided carefully by the Artist, in Sublimations, Detonations, and Fixations, do affect the Lungs, Head, and the Animal as well as the vital Spirits. Now if a cautious and experienced Operator, defends himself against, and by his Industry can prevent the ill Impressions of such Offensive Fumes and Exhalations, then he doth not only preserve his own Health, but besides he doth obtain some Medicines, so much the more to be valued, as without them, there can be no great Performances in the Cure of Diseases; as the *Flux*, *Small Pox*, Malignant *Fevers*, and even the *Plague*.

The Body of Antimony being so Depurated and Divested of its Volatile Acrimonious, Sulphurous, and Dangerous Salts, remains inoffensive, and so full of vacuous, and uncommon Matrices, as to afford so many Receptacles, readily prepared and adapted, to receive the Morbifick Ferments, which are the Causes of the aforementioned Distempers. Thus, as the Peruvian Bark, without any sensible Evacuation, absorbeth the Febrile Ferments of *Agues*, and Remitting *Fevers*, so the Fixed Antimonial Preparations, do swallow up, or imbibe the Malignant, sulphurous volatile Salts, whereby Nature is no longer insulted, and they are expelled our

of the verge of the Microcosme, sometimes without any visible Operation, but that of Amendment, and Recovery of Health.

Above all, the Antimonial Fixed Preparations I commend the Bezoard Mineral, whose singular Power and Excellency I have often most happily experienced, in the *Small Pox* and *Malignant Fevers*; whereas *Gascoin*'s Powder was ineffectual, the *Bezoard* Mineral hath succeeded to Admiration; but then let it be prepared as I hinted before, in the Catalogue of Medicines, and elsewhere.

It will be objected, That since the volatile, acrid, and dangerous Fumes of Antimony, are so prejudicial to Health, how I come to commend Cinnabar of Antimony, which partaketh so much of the Antimonial Sulphurs.

The Case, I think, is plain. For, is not Mercury sublimate Corrosive, a most violent and desperate Poison? Notwithstanding, if pulverised and mixed with current or fluid Mercury, and afterwards sublimed as it ought, and this Operation repeated three or four times, doth not from this exurge a most Balsamick Medicine, called *Mercurius dulcis*, whose Vertues in many stubborn Diseases do evidently appear. In this Preparation, the Corrosive acid Salts are blunted, sheathed and enervated. In the Preparation of Cinnabar of Antimony, the Malignant Sulphurs of Antimony are so far debilitated, altered, castrated, and dulcified, by the mutual action and re-action of the Particles of corrosive sublimate, with the Antimonial Sulphurs, as to become at last, a most noble and powerful Medicine, which will do an extraordinary Service, in the Cure of *Fevers*, and is an undoubted Specifick in *Pluriste* and *Rhumatism*, as well as in many other Distempers. Whoever is cured by the *Cinnabar* of *Antimony*, of a *Plurisy*, or *Rhumatism*, needs not fear a Relapse. The Use of that Medicine doth soon strike at the Root of those Diseases, and I seldom bleed the Patient above once. The Cure of these two last Distempers, particularly by repeated vene-

venesection, is long, tedious, uncertain, and the Patient is apt to relapse, and often falls into a *Consumption*. These Dangers are prevented by a due Exhibition of Cinnabar of Antimony.

Lewenhoeck, his Predecessors and Followers thought to have made an extraordinary Discovery, by Microscopes, or Magnifying Glasses, of little Animals, Shooting up and down in the Seed of Animals, and some sorts of Liquors. From this Notion, several speculative Men have accused Insects of being the Cause of most Diseases. I do own there are in and above the Globe of the Earth, many sorts of minute Insects, which may be the Occasion of some Diseases. But I don't allow, that all, or many Diseases proceed from Insects. We have an Historical Account of *Chigoe* in the *West Indies*, which do creep into the Pores of Travellers Feet. There they do burrow, lay their Eggs and multiply. They cause very painful Swellings in those Parts wherein they do penetrate. The Cure is, by dextrously cutting off the Tumor, or the whole Swelling: I say the whole Swelling; for if the Swelling, which is a Bag full of Insects, be not cut out intire, then what is left behind causeth a mighty Inflammation, with such an Ulcer, as is very difficult to Cure. The *Dracunculi* or *Dragons*, which affect the Calves of the Legs in that hot Climate, are thought, by some, to proceed from Insects. But I am of another Opinion; I have seen some Men in *England* come from the *West Indies* afflicted with that Distemper, but I will postpone that Case to another time.

To return to *Lewenhoeck* his Microscopical Observations, on which he grounded his imaginary Insects, I say for the present, that all Liquors, never so simple to our Eyes, are however a Compound Mixture of various Substances. What is perceivable in some Liquors, and is reputed to be living Creatures, I take to be nothing, but inanimate Ingredients, flexible as Eels, which swimming in the Liquor, are now and then vibrated from one Place to another by that wonderful

derful Spirit of the World, to which all Things are pervious. This Spirit actuateth the various Ferments of Liquors, and never giveth over till the inteſtine Commotion and ſtruggle between the different contained Particles, have broke their Viſcoſity, and their Angles are ſo far ſmoothed, as to produce the Natural Conſequence of the groſs Particles ſubſiding; which, when come to paſs, then the Liquor is fine, and the Coſmick Spirit finds a ready and open Paſſage without any further Commotion. In Wine the ſubſided Particles go by the Name of Lees; in Ale and Beer, and other Liquors, they are called the Grounds.

I muſt come again to the flexible and Eel like Particles. The Microſcopical Obſervators do tell us, that if any Spirit, or Oyl of Vitriol be poured upon thoſe Animalcules, they do die. As to their being animated, I cannot agree with them. On the contrary, I believe that their Motion proceeds from the Coſmick Spirit, and their Flexibility ought to be aſcribed to their particular flexible Nature, which is deſtroyed and made rigid by the affuſion of Spirit, or Oil of Vitriol. Thus the Microſcopical Obſervators, in my Opinion, have as much Reaſon to affirm thoſe Particles to be alive, as Children, to call a piece of a Cloud a Horſe, or ſome other living Animal, becauſe of its ſhape and reſemblance to that or that Thing. We ſee in the Winter, that the Northern freezing Particles, make their Way into common Water, or oily Liquors; whoſe flexible Particles they do divide, join themſelves with, and congeal them. By this Congelation, the flexible Particles of Water are made rigid and hard; their Pores are ſo much enlarged, as to admit a great quantity of Air, which maketh every piece of Ice lighter, than an equal Volume of Fluid-water. Therefore in froſty Weather, you may obſerve, that the ſurface of the Fluid Water, is lower, than the ſurface of the ſwimming piece of Ice.

THE Obſervation made of Inſects upon the leaves of

of Trees, and Flowers of Plants, is a matter of Fact. Thoſe Inſects feed upon the Leaves and Flowers; and as moſt commonly they do deſtroy one ſide of the Leaves, it is no Wonder if the ſides of the Leaves that are gnawed, are not of an equal Strength, with the outſide of the ſame Leaves, that are not gnawed, ſo that, the ſide of the Leaves which is gnawed, muſt yield to the outſide not gnawed; and conſequently, thoſe Leaves muſt curl, to that ſide that is gnawed. But if the Leaves be gnawed and eaten up through and through, then there will be another Appearance. But what is all this, to the *Plague*? Can any one think that thoſe Inſects, can be ſo numerous, as not only to make a deſtructive impreſſion or blight on Leaves and Flowers, but likewiſe, they muſt fill up the Atmoſphere, and be ſucked up into our Lungs by Inſpiration?

I remember I have been twice in danger of being choaked by breathing or ſucking in a ſmall Fly, when I was walking in a Garden in the Country. I was both Times, ſo troubled with a violent Cough, for one or two Hours, that I thought I ſhould not Survive it. At laſt, by a Torrent of Phlegm, and the Violence of a Cough, the ſmall Inſect was exploded out of my Wind-pipe, and ſo the Cauſe being removed, I recover'd by Breath.

CAN any Man prove, that he ever ſaw flying Inſects in the Air, in Shoals, and he could breath that Air, without the danger of being Choaked? Can any Man prove, even by Microſcopial Obſervation, that he hath ſeen any thing like an Inſect in a *Bubo*, or a *Carbuncle*. Again, the Fury of Poyſonous, and Arſenical Exhalations, is Experimentally known by it's effects, particularly, by that mortified piece of Fleſh, which looks like a ſcorched Stake of Beef, commonly the Relict Product of a *Carbuncle*, and ſo like the Eſchar made by the outward Application of Arſenick, that there is no need to bring in Inſects, for the cauſe of the *Plague*, ſince, the firſt ſheweth and proveth itſelf, in a great Meaſure; the latter, *the Inſects*, do not.

Not-

Notwithstanding all what I have premised, if any one can convince me, that I am in an Error, I will readily acquiesce, with my hearty Thanks, for a better Information.

I cannot forbear expressing my utmost concern, when I see what an envy and enmity reigns amongst Physicians. Natural Religion commends and claims Morality, and Humanity.

Do as you would be done by, is the great, constant, and perpetual Law of Natural Religion. This distinguisheth Mankind from Brutes. What is more amazing, is, that Morality and Humanity, the Basis of Natural Religion, though it hath been so confirmed and established by the Christian revealed Religion, should make so little an impression, on the Minds of Men, who call themselves Christians. Amongst them, Physicians, that have had a Liberal Education, and a Philosophical Institution, should be the most free from those vile Passions, and endeavour to exceed one another, by a civil and courteous Conversation, and a Friendly Correspondence. Instead of this, I hear of nothing, but Flagellators, Scarificators, and such odious and sarcastick Names, which some Physicians, furiously dart at one another.

This Satyrical War, cannot but produce the effect of Contempt of such Physicians, and of Medicine itself, in the Minds of the Generality of Mankind.

I have often wondered at a Reflection upon Physicians, as though they had no Religion, but are Atheists. This ignominious Character, I have in all Companies endeavoured to remove, by asserting the impossibility, of a Physicians irreligion. How can a Physician be an Atheist, that hath had a regular Education, in the several Branches of Medicine, particularly in Anatomy? How can any Man run through a course of Anatomy, viewing the several Parts of the Human Microcosme, without admiration? Not to mention all the particular Parts, let us but examine the admirable Fabrick of the Eye, which appears so Geometrically contrived, as to leave no room, to suspect, that this wonderful Organ, did make itself. The same judgment, may naturally be made of all other Parts.

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The Skin with it's innumerable Pores and Glands, interwoven with the minuteſt Branches of the Nerves, Veins, Arteries, and Limphæducts, the aſtoniſhing Structure of the Muſcles, Membranes, Blood-veſſels, and Nerves; the ſurprizing Motion of the Heart, whereby the Blood is conſtantly forced to all the extreme and remoteſt Parts, and after it hath imparted a due and neceſſary ſupply of Aliment to every particular Organ, and after a nice Secretion of the Limphæ, which is conveyed to the Limphatick-veſſels, all theſe afterwards return to the Heart, there to receive a Renovation, for a new and repeated miſſion to thoſe Provinces, through which they travelled before.

This Circular Progreſs and Motion, doth laſt as long as Life itſelf; and when it ceaſeth, there is immediately an End of Life. My preſent Deſign, not allowing to extend myſelf to particulars, I am confin'd to Generals; therefore I do paſs to the Conſideration of the moſt Remarkable, and moſt convincing Proof of a Supreme, all Wiſe, and Omnipotent Architect. The Argument is *Generation*. The moſt ignorant Ploughman, in natural Philoſophy, is able to get a Child, perhaps ſooner than the ableſt and moſt learned Philoſopher; both the Philoſopher and Ploughman, have a natural propenſity to the Act of *Generation*. From that Act, reſults Impregnation, and at laſt a Child. Pray tell me, whether the Ploughman or the Philoſopher, did beforehand prepare a Scheme, for a Boy or a Girl? Can they manage and direct the Formation of a Child to the beſt Advantage of Health, Beauty, Strength, Stature, and Wiſdom? No Body can ſay that any one can. The Concluſion then, is neceſſary from the Premiſes, that as the Law of *Generation (Encreaſe and Multiply)* is moſt Natural and Irreſiſtible, ſo the darkeſt Ignorance of the Actors, and the wonderful product of the Act, are ſuch cogent Arguments, that proclaim aloud, the Omnipotency, and the unſcrutable proceeding of Almighty God, as is ſufficient, to prevent a Phyſician, or any Philoſopher from the Temptation of Atheiſm. Therefore I think it impoſſible, that a Phyſician regularly inſtituted, can be an Atheiſt.

Hippocrates in his Book of the Heart, *ſect.* 2. *pag.* 269. *Foeſius's* Edition; after a Deſcription of the Heart, and its ſeveral Parts, Motion and Appendixes, giveth the Character of them. *Theſe are the Springs of humane Nature from which Streams do run, wherewith a Man's Body is Water'd: Theſe maintain a Man's Life, and when they come to be wanting, or deficient the Man dyeth.* And a little lower [tho' he was an Ethnick] he maketh this Concluſion, I am perſuaded that this is the

Workmanſhip

Workmanſhip of an excellent Artiſt. And *pag.* 219. *ſect.* 8. there are many and different Veins, by which the Body is nouriſh'd. From the large Veins, as well outward as inward, Aliment is convey'd into the Cavities of the Body, and all the Members, and thoſe Veſſels communicate one with another, the internal, with the external, and the external give a ſupply to the internal.

By this Text of *Hippocrates*, it appears, that he had a Notion, though an imperfect one, of the Circulation of the Blood. Again, upon his ſerious Contemplation of the Structure of the Heart, it's Office, it's Uſe, and it's Appendixes, he was eaſily induced to acknowledge the Being of a God.

From the Premiſſes, it can never enter into my Mind, that a Philoſopher, and a Phyſician can be Atheiſts.

To conclude, as we have many Syſtems of Medicine, from former Ages, as well as from Modern Authors, which laſt, ſtanding upon the Shoulders of their Predeceſſors, have been enabled to make ample and further Diſcoveries, ſo I would adviſe every young Phyſician, to make a right choice, of ſome one or two, of the beſt Modern Syſtems, from all the reſt. I ſay the beſt; for it is eaſy for any willing Man, void of Prejudice, and fully reſolved to adhere, to what is moſt Conſonant to Reaſon, to make a good choice: When fixed upon a Syſtem which teacheth him a right Phyſiology and Pathology, then let him free himſelf from Paſſions, particularly Envy, Pride, and Coveteouſneſs. Let him make a diligent and ſtrict Obſervation of Diſeaſes, and of that Method of Cure, which ſucceeds the beſt with him, and other Phyſicians. By this way of Proceeding, and communicating to the Publick, his Performances, he and all other Phyſicians that will do the ſame, are like to advance the Honour of Medicine. Nay, without further new Syſtems, particularly relating to Theory, I doubt not but the Practical Part of Phyſick may be ſo far improved, as to be exalted in time, to a Degree of perfection, as much as the Genius of Man, and outward Impediments, which don't yield to human Learning, Sagacity and Experience, will allow.

Above all, exact Obſervations of the Nature of Medicines, of the Time of their Adminiſtration, in the ſeveral and diſtinct Caſes, with their Operation, will improve the Science and Art of Phyſick, beyond all Innovations, by more new Schemes or Syſtems, which have very little, or nothing of the Practical Part. This I moſt earneſtly recommend for the Service of the Publick,

POSTSCRIP,

POSTSCRIPT

The Second.

A Gentlewoman, Sixty Years of Age, living in *Germain-ſtreet*, in St. *James's* Pariſh, of a ſeemingly good Habit of Body, neither very fat nor lean, in the Year 1710, in the Month of *Auguſt*, came to *London*. Want of Digeſtion, inclination to Vomit, *Colick*, and Faintneſs at that time did attend her and had for ſome Months. A Phyſician adviſed her amongſt other Things, to go to *Hampſtead*, four Miles diſtant from *London*, to drink the Waters of that Place. There ſhe drank the Water, which is of the nature of a Chalybeate, but weak. This Gentlewoman perceived no Benefit by that Water, and finding herſelf afflicted with the ſame Symptoms as before mention'd, deſired to conſult me. I came, as requeſted, and being ſat by her Bed-ſide, and ſeriouſly meditating on her Caſe, I underſtood that ſhe had vomited ſometimes that Day. I did examine what ſhe had vomited, and I found ſome little Membranes or Skins, which, at firſt, I did judge to be Parcels of Worms. Upon this, I reſolved to give her a gentle Vomit, in order to clear her Stomach from an unnatural Load. I preſcribed her one Dram of White Vitriol prepared, di-

vided into three Parts, of an equal Weight, whereof she was to take one Part, immediately after drinking two Pints of Cardius Tea. With the first Twenty Grains, the Patient vomited well, and I proceeded with the two remaining Doses as before, and thereby her Stomach was very well cleansed. She brought up abundance of thick and viscous Matter, in which I observed some Membranes or Skins, as at first, which I thought to be the Fragments of Worms.

BUT upon second Thought, and strict Examination, I concluded that those Membranes or Skins were nothing else but a part of the *Tunica Villosa*, or Plush-like Membrane of the Ventricle, corroded by the sharpness of Humors.

AFTER her vomiting three or four times, she had two or three Motions downwards, which were in Figure and Forme, like Rabbets Dung. This Last Symptom or Appearance, did not a little perplex my Mind. At last, I did conclude within myself, that the Figure and Forme of that Excrement, was owing to some Obstruction in the Bowels.

IN the mean time, my Patient, not only before my vomiting of her, but afterwards, complaining still of a Sickness at her Stomach, inclination to Vomit, and the former Symptoms, whereunto was joined an acute Pain in the Region of the Intestine Colon, upon this I was induced, to think that Part of the vitriolick Vomit, had got down into her Bowels, and joined with the acrid luxuriant Corrosive Juices, and with a kind of a combined Power, did maintain, and in some degree did encrease her Colick. Wherefore I ordered a Clyster of twelve Ounces of Linseed Oil, to be repeated three or four times, once in three Hours. I ordered a Cordial Julep, to keep up her Spirits.

Theſe Oily Clyſters did anſwer my End, by lubricating or ſoftening the Bowels, mitigating the ſharpneſs and fierceneſs of the Humours, and gave her ſeveral Stools, which amounted to little more than the voiding of the Clyſters. By this kind and eaſy Evacuation, the Patient found much Relief; and though ſhe ſtill complained of being faint, however by altering and Balſamick Medicines, and an Analeptick, or good Kitching Phyſick, ſhe recovered.

HERE followeth an Obſervation worthy to be remembred, *Viz.* That this Patient's Cloſe-ſtool was not look'd into that Day ſhe took the Vomit and Clyſters, but the Day after ſhe herſelf looked into the Cloſe-ſtool, and ſhe with great amazement, ſaw ſomething extraordinary, and ſwimming at the top of what was in the Cloſe-ſtool: She cauſed a Servant to take it out, and to put it in a Baſon; Some time after when I came to viſit her, ſhe gave me an Account of that Matter, and ſhewed me what ſhe had voided; and aſſured me, that at her voiding of the ſecond Oil Clyſter, ſhe had ſtrained more than uſually.

THIS preternatural Product, was a long fleſhy Subſtance, whoſe length was about Eighteen Inches, the Diameter about one Inch and a quarter. The Weight of it was about one Pound and a half; it much reſembled the Colour of Liver, and the Body of it was fungous, and full of Curdled Blood.

FOR ten Days together, every Day I waſhed it myſelf, in ſeveral fair Waters; whereby the Coagulated Blood was waſhed off. Then I macerated or ſteept it in good Brandy for ten Days. Afterwards I did put it in a wide Mouth, fine Glaſs Bottle, in rectify'd Spirit of Wine; the Glaſs I curiouſly ſtopt, which I keep as a great Rarity.

BY what Obſervations I made in this Caſe, I

am perſuaded that the Pluſh-like Membrane of the Ventricle, was in ſome meaſure corroded; and the ſeveral Pieces of Membranes which ſhe vomited, are a ſufficient Demonſtration that my Judgment was right. For this Reaſon I ordered my Patient to take, three or four times a Day, one Spoonful of Linſeed Oil newly drawn, without Fire; which Oil is Anodine and healing.

WHEREAS *Hippocrates* doth teach us, that where the Pain is conſtant and fixed, there the Diſtemper hath its Seat: Therefore I thought it was agreeable to Reaſon, to judge that the forementioned excreſcence of Fleſh, did adhere to, and reſide in the inteſtine Colon; becauſe the Patient was particularly afflicted with a Pain which extended from the right to the left Hypocondrium in the very region and extent of the Colon. At the ſame time I doubt not, that the ſharp corroding Humour did alſo affect the Ventricle; becauſe ſhe had vomited ſo many little Skins as before related.

IT will be asked, how this excreſcence of Fleſh came to grow in the Colon? I anſwer, That the corroſiveneſs of the Humours, having conſumed and eaten up, ſome conſiderable Part of the inward Membrane of the Colon; Nature, which endeavoureth continually to repair the Breaches made by what Cauſe ſoever, within and without the Body did afford but a ſpurious Nutriment, altogether unfit to heal and cicatrice that inward Ulcer, which could not be done but with kind and balſamick Juices. For want of which, only a fungous, or baſtard Fleſh was produced in that Bowel, after the ſame way as in outward Wounds and Ulcers, where a balſamick Blood is wanting.

'TIS moſt probable, that this Fleſhy Excreſcence, did not adhere to the concave Part of the Colon, according to its full length; therefore it came to

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be looſened and ſevered the more eaſily, from that Part of the Colon where it was adherent, which ſeparation I aſcribe to the repeated Commotions, occaſioned by the vitriol Emetick.

THE Oily Clyſters, which I did preſcribe in this Caſe, without doubt, did much contribute towards the Excretion of this Fleſhy Subſtance, and the repeated Uſe of them, for ſome Days, did prevent the return of the Pain. Afterwards I ordered but half a Pint of Linſeed-Oil, with two Ounces of Honey of Roſes, diluted and mixed with ſix Ounces of Sheep's Head Broth, prepared with the Comphrey-root: With the uſe of this laſt Clyſter repeated for ſome Days, I did deterge or cleanſe the Ulcerous inſide of the Bowels; taking care at the ſame Time, that ſhe ſhould ſwallow down, about half a Dram of *Chio* Turpentine in a Wafer, with a Draught after it, of the following Apozeme. Take of Pearl Barley, two ſpoonfuls, Raiſens of the Sun ſtoned, half a Pound, Liquoriſh, four Ounces, great Comphrey-root, half a Pound, one Sheep's Head; boil all theſe together in a Gallon of Spring Water to two Quarts, which, ſtrained through a Sieve, keep in a clean, glazed earthen Pan, with a Cover to it, and keep it in a Place neither hot nor cold. Of this ſhe took half a Pint warm after her Pill, in a Morning faſting; another half Pint four or five Hours after Dinner, and the laſt half Pint going to Bed. The Pill but once a Day. In this courſe Balſamick and Traumatick, ſhe did continue three Weeks, after which I put her, for a fourtnight, upon fixed Antimonials, once a Day, but with the recited Apozeme, ſtill three times a Day, by this Method that Gentlewoman did recover ſo far, as to ſleep well, to have a good Appetite, without Pain, and her Stools of a Natural Bigneſs and Conſiſtency.

THIS

THIS present Month of *March* 1721. This Patient is alive and well in Health, which she hath enjoyed, beyond expectation these ten Years.

The History of the following Case may be acceptable to my Reader.

SEVERAL Years ago, a *Cheese-monger* kept a Monkey chained up, according to custom, and had his Station upon the Stall of the Shop. As often as I went by the Shop, I observed that this Monkey was often busy, endeavouring, as I did imagine, to pick something out of his Anus or Fundament with his Fingers. I did conclude within myself, that either the Monkey was extreamly Caustive or else, that he had swallowed some Bone, or piece of a Bone, which sticking in that Passage, did occasion him so much uneasiness. Furthermore this Monkey had several broad and whitish Scurfs, very much resembling Venereal ones, upon his Breast, Armpits and Face. At last, the Monkey dying, I begg'd the Body of my Neighbour who readily gave it me. The Abdomen or Belly was swell'd and hard, which when I did open, I found Fallopius his Gland, in the Mesentery, so tumified, that it was as big as a Man's Fist. Along the length of the Intestines or Bowels, I found several Glands adherent to them, and of the bigness of a large Nutmeg; at last, in the left Side of the Pelvis, I discovered a Gland sticking to the superior Part of the Sphincter of the Anus, which did equal the bigness of a small Hen Egg. This last Gland pressing upon the outside of the Rectum within the Abdomen, did so press upon that Bowel that it was naturally impossible for the Excrement to come forth, without much difficulty, and at last, the Out-let of the Rectum was totally obstructed. From this, the cause is evident, why the Poor Monkey did thrust his Fingers so often into his Fundament

Fundament. Again it appears that this Monkey was afflicted with a ſcrophulous Diſtemper called the *Evil* in the Belly, and that by the enormous Swelling of the Glands in the Meſentery, the Lacteals were quite obſtructed by compreſſion, whence a mortal Atrophia, or Conſumption did follow.

I ſhall not enlarge upon the Scabs which I did obſerve on the Monkey's Breaſt, Face, and Armpits; for my preſent deſign doth not require it. However, I muſt confeſs, that it is my opinion, that the Venereal Diſeaſe doth not ſingularly and properly belong to Mankind alone.

The Obſervation *following hath ſome* Analogy *with the Preceding.*

A Gentleman, ſeventy Years of Age, for ſeveral Months, with much Difficulty, did go to Stool. At laſt I was ſent for; and I found him Feveriſh, and inclin'd to vomit. I bethought myſelf of Clyſters, as the moſt proper Means, to empty the Bowels, and to give him Eaſe. The Apothecary brought a Clyſter which I had preſcribed, and after the Ordinary way, tryed to inject it with a Pipe and Bladder. He tryed, but in vain, for he could ſqueeze none of the Clyſter into the Bowels. There was a ſtoppage in the Rectum, which, upon Examination, with a pretty long, and ſomewhat big Catheter, I found within the Rectum, about four Inches diſtant from the Orifice. Upon this, I ordered to try with a Pewter Syringe, which is much more powerful and effectual than a Bladder; but the Syringe had no better Succeſs. At laſt this ſtub-

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born Obſtruction yielding to no kind of Remedies, the Gentleman dyed. I could not obtain the Liberty of opening his Body; however, it gave me an Occaſion to remember the caſe of the Monkey; and I think it probable that the Diſtemper of this Gentleman, was very like that of the Monkey, if not the ſame.

FINIS.